

**REGULAR MEETING
AUGUST 19, 2013**

The Wethersfield Town Council held a meeting on Monday, August 19th, at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers, 505 Silas Deane Highway, Wethersfield.

Present: Councilors Drake, Hurley, Kotkin, Manousos, McAlister, Montinieri, Roberts, Deputy Mayor Console, and Chairperson Hemmann.

Also present: Mike Turner, Town Engineer, Dave Goodson, CL&P Vegetation Manager, Kathy Bagley, Director Parks & Recreation, Sally Katz, Director Physical Services, Michael Emmett, Superintendent of Schools, Thomas Moore, Wethersfield High School Principle, Christine Fortunato, Chairperson Hanmer-WHS, Building Committee, Lorel Purcell, pre-construction manager O&G Industries, Rusty Malik, Quisenberry, RaeAnn Palmer, Assistant Town Manager, Jeff Bridges, Town Manager and Dolores G. Sassano, Town Clerk.

Dolores Sassano led the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

Deputy Mayor Console moved to add two items to the agenda:

“APPROVAL OF THE A COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT SMALL CITIES HOUSING REHABILITATION LOAN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TOWN AND THE METROPOLITAN DISTRICT EMPLOYEE’S CREDIT UNION FOR 579 RIDGE ROAD”, and

“APPROVAL OF AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TOWN OF WETHERSFIELD AND THE CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY SERVICES AND PUBLIC PROTECTION, DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AND HOMELAND SECURITY FOR A WETHERSFIELD MULTIPLE GENERATOR INSTALLATION GRANT. (TOTAL PROJECT AWARD \$476,700, FEDERAL SHARE \$357,525 TOWN SHARE \$119,175. LOCATIONS FOR REPLACEMENT GENERATORS ARE: COMMUNITY CENTER, THREE FIRE STATIONS, PHYSICAL SERVICES, NATURE CENTER, AMBULANCE FACILITY, TOWN HALL)”, seconded by Councilor Hurley.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 9-0-0.

Mayor Hemmann next read a Proclamation designating September 19, 2013 as “No Texting While Driving Day”.

Mayor Hemmann called upon Peter Gillespie to give the Economic Development Report. In Peter’s absence, Mayor Hemmann asked RaeAnn Palmer to go over the highlights. See report below.

TOWN OF WETHERSFIELD

Planning and Economic Development Department Report

August 2013

Peter D. Gillespie,
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RECENT PROJECTS

- The redevelopment of the former Porter and Chester building at 125 Silas Deane Highway to a 6 unit retail building is complete. Family Dollar recently celebrated a grand re-opening and 5 additional tenant spaces are now available.
- The renovation of the office building at 1290 Silas Deane Highway is nearing completion. The Town provided façade improvement funding to assist the project. The new building owner has been aggressively recruiting tenants to the building.
- Demolition of a portion of the former NU property at 176 Cumberland Avenue should begin shortly to accommodate the plans for a CREC Magnet School Discovery Academy.
- The former space occupied by the Yuan Asian Bistro at 2138 Berlin Turnpike has been renovated to accommodate expanded space for Young Pharmaceuticals.
- Substantial improvements including a new elevator have been made at the Putnam Park office Building at 100 Great Meadow Road to accommodate the Art Institute of Connecticut.
- The following new businesses have opened over the past few months:
 - 1080 Silas Deane - Salon Concepts
 - 1084 Silas Deane - Cherry Berry
 - 1086 Silas Deane - Pizza Hut
 - 1285 Silas Deane - Consignments Unlimited
 - 1107 Silas Deane – Fro Yo World
 - Silas Deane - World Buffet
 - 1290 Silas Deane Highway
 - Statewide Legal
 - Hartford Hospital VNA
 - Hartford Hospital
 - Key Human Services
 - Qualidym
 - Simone Macca and Larrow CPA – 85 Wolcott Hill Road
 - Great Clips
 - Dance Outfitters
- A new church has opened at 1155 Silas Deane Highway – New Life Christian Fellowship.
- An addition is underway for the Hartford Hospital medical building at 1260 Silas Deane Highway.

- Several businesses have closed over the past few months including: Wells Tavern, Wiggles and Giggles and Carmen Anthony's Restaurant.

Planning and Zoning

- The Commission completed it's effort to review and update the Plan of Conservation and Development. The Commission set an effective date for the Plan as June 2013. Copies of the Plan are now available.
- Elected Rich Roberts Chair at their last meeting.

Economic Development and Improvement Commission

- At their July meeting the Commission elected Mark Trahan as Chair and Vincent Fabi as Vice Chair.
- Approved a facade loan for the repainting of the American Legion building on Main Street.
- We received notice that our STEAP application for funds for the facade program and for the redevelopment of 1000 Silas Deane Highway was not granted.

Tourism

- The Commission is working with the Pita Group on a number of marketing initiatives. Specifically, we have just completed the design of our Fall and Spring rack cards which are being distributed at visitor attractions throughout Connecticut.
- We have placed an ad in the September/October edition of AAA Journeys magazine.
- The Commission recently completed the planning process for the revitalization and reuse plan for the Masonic Hall and Comstock Ferre sites on Main Street. CME Associates were retained through a grant from the CT Trust For Historic Preservation to prepare the Plan. The Masonic building is presently under contract with a buyer and an application has been filed for site and parking lot improvements.
- A grant of \$17,500 was received from the Hartford Foundation For Public Giving to assist with the funding of the Heritage Interpretive Trail.
- An additional grant in the amount of \$35,000 was submitted to Connecticut Humanities for additional funding for the Heritage Interpretive Trail.

Deputy Mayor Console asked Ms. Palmer if she can have Denise get the status on Carmen Anthony's because there has been some interest in it.

Mr. Palmer responded that she knows because of the tax issue that there was a buyer in the wings or a refinance of that and stated that she will get back to him on that.

Mayor Hemmann announced that the Town has lost a very faithful volunteer and is sorry that this has happened. She announced that Paul Courchaine has recently passed away and has been a vital part of this community for many years. He served on the Historic Commission as well as many other committees and commissions around the town. She stated that there will be a

memorial service held for him on August 30th at 1:00 p.m. at the Webb Barn. Mayor Hemmann commented that his presence will be missed.

Mayor Hemmann next announced the tree trimming report from Connecticut Light and Power will be presented tonight. She requested that CL&P stay for Public comment so that they can hear the input of our public who are here to speak tonight.

Councilor Roberts made note to the Mayor that Councilor Kotkin moved to the back of the room for this discussion.

Dave Goodson, Manager of Vegetation Management from Connecticut Light & Power explained that the reason why we do vegetation management is because it's for safety for the public, for the utility workers that work on the lines and also for visual and physical access that is necessary for us to provide maintenance and also for emergency situations as we need to be able to see the wires to be able to find and fix problems, to prevent damage to some very expensive equipment that is up in the air and lastly for the reliability of our electric system because we want your lights to stay on. Mr. Goodson explained that since the last couple of storms, there has been a growing interest in vegetation management and tree work and we have had several dockets with our regulator and our budget has doubled so we can do more so that your light stay on. Mr. Goodson referred to some handouts that he gave out prior to the meeting. He stated that before they perform any maintenance work in town, they always schedule a meeting with town leadership and the Tree Warden. Mr. Goodson explained that all tree trimming work is performed by professional line clearance contractors who have employees that are trained in the very specific work that goes into line clearance. He explained that all of those crews are under the direction of our State Certified Arborist, who works with the Town Tree Warden on any issues that arise. He explained that protecting the trees and wires is foremost our reason for being there. Mr. Goodson then explained how their electric system is laid out in Wethersfield and referred to the map that was handed out. He stated that there are two types of tree maintenance that they do. One is called our routine trimming which is performed along the lateral lines and that is where we get approximately a clearance area of 8' to the side, 10' below and 15' over the overhead electric wires. On the backbone, our goal is remove all overhanging limbs and the point is without overhang, we have a much more reliable system both on blue sky days and also in storms like we've witnessed in the past couple of years. He stated that with the trees in question on the green our recommendation is that there are 5 to 6 trees that we believe they obviously no longer look like trees because of their shape and we recommend that those trees be removed and we will put a replacement tree in their place. He stated that this gets into part of our program called "Right Tree, Right Place" and explained that there is a right place for a tree and a there's wrong place for a tree. He stated that a tree that wants to be 80 feet tall and is planted close to an electric line can't ever look like a tree when it is planted too close. If it is planted far enough away then they can maintain that shape. He stated that if you look on the green, most of those trees are what we would call open-grow, they want to be shaped like a giant gum drop. Placed too close to our wires, they can't look like a gum drop because we need to protect our facilities so the electricity stays on and we have a safe electric system. Mr. Goodson asked for any questions.

Councilor Hurley commented that it seems that they went overboard a little bit. Some trees look like they had done some cutting on but some seem like they went way over board. He asked if they have some discretion when they are cutting the trees or do they have to exactly cut back the 15'?

Mr. Goodson responded that the contractors they hire are instructed to get the clearance but there is also some discretion they use. He explained the standards we work to are described by the International Society of Arboriculture which requires us to go back to the next main leaf when removing limbs because that stub will just decay and will never grow back to the way it was.

Councilor Hurley asked if there was some type of planting that CL&P can do for the destruction of some of the 100 year old trees.

Mr. Goodson responded that we have a proposal where like on the town green we will remove those trees in whole and put replacement trees in their place. But again, right tree in right place is what we want to do and we will work with the Tree Warden to pick out a species that is compatible. If it is close to the road and close to our conductors, we want something that is going to be relatively small at its maturity if it can be further away from the road, it could be a very large tree.

Councilor Drake asked the five trees that they are talking about moving, is that based on the result of everyone moaning and groaning or were you planning on doing that ahead of time.

Mr. Goodson responded that it is based on a result.

Councilor Drake asked are these going to be substantial trees or \$200.00 trees.

Mr. Goodson responded in terms of size, we would travel down to somewhere like Millanes and see what they have for size. We are not going to take a tree out that big and replace it with a tree that big. It will be a professionally grown tree probably up from 2" to 4" caliber.

Councilor Drake stated that he thinks a lot of this could have been avoided. He stated if someone at the beginning said, I think we need to take five out, then we could have had some type of a discussion ahead of time with the people involved and made a determination.

Deputy Mayor Console commented that on their website, it tells about why you trim trees and there was something mentioned about ETT [Enhanced Tree Trimming] and why you do enhanced tree trimming. He asked Mr. Goodson to pass out a picture that he gave him at the beginning of the meeting of tree trimming done at Sacred Heart Church. Deputy Mayor Console commented that he spoke to the priest at Sacred Heart Church and right now the way that the trees are cut, the church garage and church hall are in danger should they ever fall. Deputy Mayor Console commented that they would avoid a power line, but would fall on buildings and questions if we didn't have CL&P here tonight, would they have gone back and done anything with these trees or would they stay like that.

Mr. Goodson responded if they had requested they be removed, we would remove them.

Deputy Mayor Console commented that in your statement it says that the company contractor shall inform property owner's and right-of-way abutters with homes and buildings located within 200 feet of the right-of-way or in their property line at the edge of the right-of-way that they would be given at least 48 hours notice and if they were not home they would at least get a tag on their door or a phone call by a company representative to notify them about that. He stated that every person that he got a complaint from never heard from CL&P.

Mr. Goodson responded that there is a little mix-up there and stated that reference to the 48-hour notice that is in terms of what we call our "off road right-of-way program". This is for lines that go cross country. He stated that for lines that along the road wherever we do enhanced type of trimming, we get consent from the abutting property owner, so that is a door-to-door consent from the owner of the trees.

Deputy Mayor Console commented that there is also a statement in here that you would contact a private property owner prior to cutting any trees on their property.

Mr. Goodson responded that is correct.

Deputy Mayor Console commented that was not done here.

Mr. Goodson asked if that was not done with the church.

Deputy Mayor Console responded no and it wasn't done with the seven emails that he received from people that you went onto their property and cut trees without getting their consent.

Mr. Goodson responded that if he gives him the property addresses, he will contact them.

Deputy Mayor Console asked if he was familiar with the Connecticut Tree Protection Association's statement with exceptions to the Arborists law.

Mr. Goodson responded yes, he was once President of the CTPA.

Deputy Mayor Console commented that reading through it, it says a reasonably skilled but an inadequately trained tree worker may succeed in the application of basic arboricultural techniques however that does not mean that they have full understanding of the consequences of their actions. Inappropriate tree work done solely to solve a current need can cause great harm down the road (which you guys have already caused great harm). In these situations previously sound and healthy tress can become hazardous and trees with unrecognized problems can go untreated. Deputy Mayor Console commented that he spoke to a couple of guys who were cutting the trees and they said they were hired to cut back or rip back from the power lines so we wouldn't lose power. Deputy Mayor Console stated that he asked them "would you want that tree in your back yard"? He stated that the worker responded "I don't live here, I live in New

York, I don't really care." Deputy Mayor Console commented it is not an attitude that he likes in this town and thinks that CL&P failed terribly and caused irreversible damage to this town for years to come.

Councilor Roberts commented that she understands the need for tree trimming and a few years ago when Asplund was around, they did a fabulous job. She stated these people came in like hired guns and she didn't get the feeling there was any supervision at all. She stated it seemed to be two or three trucks with the crew and for some in the crew English wasn't their primary language so I think they had difficulty when people went to talk to them. Councilor Roberts explained that in the area where she lives some people said they weren't going to give permission so you have a tree here that is really scalped and looks like the ones on the Broad Street green and then the next house you have trees in the lines because the neighbors said they weren't going to give permission. The crew really didn't seem to know what you do in that situation. In the same area, you have the trees that are cut high and then you have trees that are interspersed with wires going all the way over into the middle of the road. When I asked about those, I was told that was a telephone line and it didn't matter because they were only there for electric. She stated that the whole way that it has turned out in multiple parts in town is horrific. Unless you can purchase trees that are 100 feet tall, this is going to be worse than when the tornado came through and wiped out sections of town. She stated that she doesn't think it was CL&P's intent but thinks that is the effect. It seems to be two or three companies in town working in different parts of town, and didn't know if there was any coordination. Councilor Roberts commented that she never saw anybody that looked like they had a town truck or town car and thinks these people just went wild 8 feet back and 15 feet up. She understands why people are upset because it is just a total mishmash.

Mr. Goodson responded that he was not sure he heard a question there but will answer what he thinks he heard. First one being in regards to supervision and the crews. He stated that, yes, in some of our crews, English is not their native language and that is the workforce we have today. He explained that these crews are supervised; each crew reports to a general foreman and also is under the direction of our company arborist. He stated in terms of the hodge-podge of work out there, it is often times a result of the trees that are here today and that have been there for some of them more than 100 years and in the condition less than desirable. There are a lot of old trees in town and this is a tough town to do tree work in because of the proximity of the trees to the wires but we have to work within the constraints of Connecticut Law. Connecticut Law requires us to get consent for trees on private property. Some people will say yes, go do it, others will say no, don't. If they say don't, we don't, so that is why you see in some locations, trees that are either too close today because they have been growing that way for years or they will be that way in the future. Unfortunately, what that results in for us is a weak link in the chain of reliability. He stated that if those trees are not pruned adequately, it will be a risk to our electric system and to all of our customers. He asked if that answered all of their questions.

Councilor Roberts commented he is right, and it really wasn't a question it was sort of a statement but it just seems like for such a large project there should have some kind of overall coordination. She stated that she never saw one CL&P truck with any crew. She saw 2 or 3

different companies. Sometimes it looked like they left one truck with a guy that had nothing to do with the trimming and the other trucks were gone. There was no common sense. If you were having a tree that is cut back 15' up in the air and the tree next to it is then sticking all the way out in the road and nothing is cut because maybe it is a telephone wire, I mean aesthetically it looks appalling.

Mr. Goodson responded that he did drive around today and there are very large trees with lines built right through the center of the tree, not the best situation, but the alternative is in those situations is to take those trees down.

Councilor Roberts stated she would argue the alternative would have been to have better planning at the beginning and better coordination. If she asked for a show of hands of how many people here got a notice from CL&P, you're going to have the trees on your property touched, there wouldn't be a lot of hands going up because we haven't heard anyone saying, oh, yes, I gave permission. All she is hearing around town is what happened. Basically, one minute we had trees, we came home and the trees were gone. If you are doing this in other towns, I would strongly suggest better coordination.

Mr. Goodson responded that he has records of all the consents so he will check those consent records with the records that you provide for those addresses where we did not get consent.

Councilor Manousos commented that unfortunately the character of the town has now been changed for the next generation, how do we prevent this in the future? Is there any better communication we can have or more sensitivity from your subcontractors and crews knowing their surroundings, especially in an old town like Wethersfield.

Mr. Goodson responded that he thinks the answer is good communication. When we come to town, we specifically have meetings with the town leadership and talk about what our plan is where we will be doing all this work and lays it out just like we did on the map that you see there. He stated that we provide our work specification so it is not a surprise about what we will be doing when we come to town. So, anybody that is interested should come out and speak the more dialogue the better. As I said for individual property owners that have trees on their property, we do notify them for things like tree removals and heaving cutting, we do get signed consent.

Deputy Mayor Console commented that Councilor Roberts and Manousos touched on something. You said you worked with town officials before this took place and asked which town officials worked with him.

Mr. Goodson responded the Tree Warden for sure and a couple of fellows that are here.

Mr. Bridges responded that he met with him, Sally Katz, and Mike Turner.

Deputy Mayor Console asked when this plan was put together, when he came up with a cutting plan, and when they received it.

Mr. Bridges responded we sent it in the Manager's Weekly Report that CL&P would be in town doing their enhanced tree trimming program and that they were communicating with the Tree Warden on the overall program.

Deputy Mayor Console responded correct, but you didn't go into any detail about trimming the trees or cutting them in half, is that correct.

Mr. Bridges responded because they didn't say they were going to cut them in half. They said they were going to be doing enhanced tree trimming which requires total clearing from the wires on that side of the tree.

Deputy Mayor Console stated he understands but when it started did any town officials go out to see the type of work they were doing in the infancy stages.

Mr. Bridges responded yes, I believe that the Tree Warden was familiar with what they were doing.

Deputy Mayor Console asked if the Tree Warden in this town approved that type of cutting of the trees and stated that he finds that hard to believe.

Mr. Bridges responded that under the Connecticut Statutes, CL&P has a permit to do this work in town. When there were issues related to the extent the tree trimming was being done and some of the issues, we asked them to stop and come to this meeting. They didn't come to us and say we are going to butcher 30 trees in town, that wasn't the message and again, this was something that the State is requiring them to do. Their representation to us as Town officials is we have a program approved by an arborist, we work with your arborist and we are going to do what we have to do with the greatest care possible. That was the message we got and that was the message that we related to the community. Unfortunately, some other crews may not have been supervised as effectively as CL&P would have liked which has led us to this situation and here we are.

Deputy Mayor Console ended with this comment. The lack of communication with what took place with CL&P and our town officials to the Town Council because I know I did see that in your Town Management Report they were trimming trees, and until I started receiving calls. Trimming a tree and doing this (showed a picture of a trimmed tree) to me is not trimming a tree, that's butchering a tree and had stopped because neighbors started complaining. Deputy Mayor Console stated that there was a communication breakdown with the town officials and our council itself on this because this should have stopped a long time ago.

Councilor Montinieri asked is there a consent component for public property?

Mr. Goodson responded that the care and control of all public trees is either within the jurisdiction of the Town Tree Warden for municipal trees or for the Department of Transportation for trees on State roads.

Councilor Montinieri commented so that in the case of the Broad Street green which is town property, public property, municipality would it be normal practice to have your arborists and the town arborists actually go to the site and review the plan prior to cutting?

Mr. Goodson responded sometimes they will do that, but not always.

Councilor Montinieri asked if that happened in this case.

Mr. Goodson responded that he didn't know.

Councilor Montinieri asked if that was something that we could find out if it did happen just so we can circle back because we stopped the cutting, correct?

Mr. Goodson responded yes.

Councilor Montinieri commented that before we commence it sounds like it might be sensible to have those arborists meet with this tree company before another branch is cut to pursue that. He commented that we do have some consent capacity, if I hear what you are saying and it sounds like that might have just been overlooked in this case.

Mr. Goodson responded that he would look into it.

Councilor Roberts commented that just going forward with other communities regardless of if there is miscommunication or whatever, if you come to something that is either historic or the focal point of the community like the Board Street green I think CL&P and the tree trimming companies really need to pay special attention to that because the Broad Street green is the focal point in town. We have many activities there throughout the year. We have lots of bands, carnivals, the Corn Fest and really it's in bad shape, so I think you need to put somewhere in your policy or plans that for certain kinds of historic or focal points in the community all need to be listed as they are important to the community.

Councilor Montinieri asked if there were 5 trees that were going to be planted.

Mr. Goodson responded that that's just an approximate number.

Councilor Montinieri asked if that is based on the end result of the work that was done at the green or more broadly to the town.

Mr. Goodson responded that this is specifically talking about the green.

Councilor Montinieri asked if there is any capacity to examine that for perhaps a more robust contribution with respect to tree planting.

Mr. Goodson responded that our planting requirement is that we will get the trees and put them in the ground as long as the town or some organization will agree to maintain them going forward.

Councilor Montinieri commented that he assumed that is our normal practice with that. Mr. Bridges responded yes. Councilor Montinieri commented that it would be good to look at that a little bit more and stated that the green got devastated obviously in the tornado so it started to weaken and now we have weakened it some more, which I understand your motivations, but it sounds like we have some work to do before we go back in there.

Mr. Goodson responded as I said there are a lot of very mature trees in town and it is a very tough balance to strike between peoples' desire for reliable electric service and that aesthetic and the best way I can describe it to folks and it may sound silly and simplistic, but take a head of broccoli and take some skewers and stick those into it say those are the conductors now we need to trim around them and you'll discover it is not easy to do and that is the job that we are trying to do out there 4xpecially with the trees that are here that are quite mature.

Councilor Drake commented that assuming that we are going to continue this process on the green and I do see your specifications, maybe we need to get Mike together and the tree warden and maybe some people who live down this area and put a little group together and come up with some specific guidance for you in that particular area. It's not that big of an area we should be able to get a little group together, spend a little time and walk through and put some specific guidance together. I know you have specifications, but we could walk through and say this is what we want to do and maybe the town if we have to enhance something, we can take a look at it, but I think we need to get the people who are really passionate about it, let's give them use some guidance so whatever we can do it doesn't get screwed up more and we can try to fix and let's get a group together and do that.

Mr. Bridges commented that we can start with working with the Village Improvement Association.

Councilor Drake commented that he doesn't know if we need it throughout the whole town and we can look at that as we go forward but let's get the Town green straightened out as fast as we can.

Deputy Mayor Console commented that it should be a town-wide issue because Ridge Rd. is no better and so is the Highcrest area.

Councilor Roberts asked if there are foreman on the scene from CL&P and asked did he circulate?

Councilor Goodson responded yes, his job covered the greater Hartford area and he circles from town to town and spent time in Wethersfield with these crews.

Councilor Roberts commented that if you met with the town staff I don't want them taking the hit that they didn't communicate with us if the expectation was that there being onsite supervisor from CL&P who actually wasn't there.

Councilor Goodson responded he did not want to be misunderstood. He [the foreman] is not on-site there 40 hours a week with these crews in this town. He circulates through Wethersfield and several other towns in the Greater Hartford area where we are also doing work.

Councilor Roberts stated that that could be a problem because she believes the supervision needs to be increased. She asked if there are tree limbs actually in the wires, whose responsibility are those, the owner of the tree or if they are actually in the wires, CL&P because they are a hazard.

Mr. Goodson responded that State law allows CL&P if there are limbs touching the conductor the law allows us to trim those limbs and that law was just passed this summer. It allows us to prune and remove limbs that are in contact with our conductors or they use the term burning, but on those poles you also have telephone and cable TV conductors that are below ours. We do not maintain those conductors. That is the responsibility of the phone and cable TV. So on any given road you may be looking at trees and wires that may not be CL&P's.

HEARINGS

Mayor Hemmann introduced the following hearing items.

Hearing on a resolution concerning an application to the State of Connecticut to obtain Local Capital Improvement Program (LOCIP) funds for milling and paving of various streets.

Hearing on a resolution concerning an application to the State of Connecticut to obtain Local Capital Improvement Program (LOCIP) funds to reconstruct and pave Fairlane Drive between Griswold Road and Fox Hill Road.

Hearing on a resolution concerning a Fair Housing Policy to ensure equal opportunity for all persons.

Hearing on a resolution recommending the acceptance of an Urban Action Grant of \$500,000 from the State of Connecticut and authorization for the Town Manager to effectuate said award.

Mayor Hemmann asked if there were any members wishing to speak on any of these hearing items.

George A. Ruhe, 956 Cloverdale Circle, commented on the first two items stating that his only counsel is to do it wisely but to think about what it is you are doing and what needs to be done on

the roads. He also commented on the words Local Capital Improvement Program and noted that he sees big sums of money coming up here but there is blighted property near where he lives that doesn't seem to be able to get a nickel or a dime and suggests that you look at the priorities that you spend your money on. Mr. Ruhe also had a question on item c and asked if there were any significant changes to that since the last time it was done?

Mr. Bridges responded that we changed a name in all of these to be consistent with the current staff and stated that we have taken it right from HUD.

Mr. Ruhe commented on item d on the resolution on Urban Action grant and stated that what comes to his mind is that he sometimes gets the feeling like there is this endless pot of money up in the sky that is going to fall down and that is not the case. He commented that Loretta's Dream pavilion is a big chunk of money and stated that the dollars there strike him and as being a desire that it may be nice but may not fit in with all of the priorities that exist in this town and suggests that you seriously question the wisdom of passing that and suggested a vote no on these particular items.

GENERAL COMMENTS

Linda Case, 103 Park Ave. commented to protect the integrity of the trees on Park Ave. and to not have any of these grotesque trimmings in that area. She also commented on all the fixtures that are now located on CL&P's poles. She stated that she is heartened by the council's response tonight regarding the tree trimming and realizes that it is balancing a lot of forces but we also have to keep the integrity of Wethersfield too.

Mark Walsh, 138 Broad St., thanked Mr. Goodson for coming by. Mr. Walsh commented that the real problem with the tree trimming is that the town dropped the ball and that the town should have had people out there watching what was getting done stated that the town should have been had someone supervising the work.

Paul Copp, 10 Executive Sq., commented that for those people who weren't contacted or had given permission or consent, CL&P's liability's is obvious but how about the towns. Mr. Copp suggested that a group of citizens be appointed to assist the departments in achieving the objective or reducing their budget in an effort to keep tax rate as is over the next couple of years. He stated that many towns are using this external resource to the advantage of all. He also commented that all expenditures be posted on a real time basis on the town website for the perception of openness. He also commented on an idea from Tony Martino who stated that we ought to remove the responsibility from the Board of Education for all facilities and for all nonteaching activities and let them do what they are trained to do.

Jim Pelletier, 61 State St., commented the he is concerned about the tree cutting on State St. and is wondering does there come a point when we decide that we can't prune trim and cut our way out of the problem and consider burying the power lines. Will the costs of burying the power lines over time outweigh the costs for trimming?

Kathy Johnson, Middletown, commented with concern with the way tree trimming is being done in Wethersfield. She commented that citizens in towns need to stand up or we are going to relinquish that privilege and responsibility as a steward and let the utility company do what they want.

David Karuk, Broad St., commented that he has witnessed many storms and saw trees fall right in front of his house and doesn't understand what this is all about. He commented that when we lost electricity for days after a big storm, people said CL&P should be trimming the trees to prevent this. Now they are trimming trees and people are upset. He commented that trees that are pruned come back and it happened in his own back yard. It takes years, but they come back. He commented that we lost some beautiful trees on the green due to the tornado and that loss was much more than any trimming could have loss and doesn't see the whole issue with trimming.

Harry Greenblatt, 35 Board, St., commented that he disagrees with the previous speaker and commented that he was a witness to the tree trimming on the Broad Street green and it didn't matter if the limb was below the wires or if it was even facing the wires, they just cut down limbs and doesn't understand why we would devastate it and it was mauling of trees, not trimming of trees.

Jim Clynch, 903 Ridge Rd., said he takes offense to Mrs. Case' remark of "burning the village to save the town" as he is a Distinct Commander of Disabled American Veterans.

Mr. Ruhe, 20 Coppermill Rd., cited a poem called "Trees" by Joyce Kilmer. Mr. Ruhe commented that he sent a letter and photographs to the council regarding some blighted property and gave the councilors a notebook to review of the history of the problem. He also commented that he believes the Mayor and council have been fair in letting people speak at the podium and letting them finish what they have to say. He stated that a lot of people died and a lot of fought hard in wars so that other citizens in this community can get up there and say what they have to say. Mr. Ruhe commented that the chair should be complemented for the prudent use of Roberts Rules of Order in letting people finish what they have to say. Now that it is election time, Mr. Ruhe also urged his fellow citizens to pay close attention to how our elected leadership, especially on the board, reacts to the citizens of this community.

Robert Young, 20 Coppermill Rd., gave a handout to the town clerk to pass along to councilors. He commented that Wethersfield had five of its six schools on the "No Child Left Behind List" Program and commented that we can thank the Board of Education to thank for all of that and stated that it was quite a knock for any town. He commented that we have yet to get out of the hole that we were in with that program. Mr. Young commented that Wethersfield's Elementary school CAPT tests performance remained flat again and the Wethersfield High School results has continued to go down and is at 56.3% average. He commented that we need to get into serious talks about this education system that we operate and stated that he doesn't see any projectories going up over the past 13 years. Mr. Young commented that there is no leadership on the Board of Education and that the Council shouldn't support them by throwing more money to them. Mr.

Young asked why aren't our students excelling and wishes people in town would address these issues more.

George Randall, 35 Olney Rd., commented that he hopes that the council approves the Cove Docks project that is on the agenda tonight. He also commented on the Urban Action Grant Award and urged that we use caution as we go into the Old Wethersfield improvements and to figure out what approach we are going to use and have a decision to do it a certain way before we reach out with the money.

COUNCIL REPORTS

No reports.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilor Drake moved to add an agenda item **"TO CANCEL THE SEPTEMBER 3, 2013 TOWN COUNCIL MEETING"**, seconded by Councilor Hurley.

Mayor Hemmann asked Mr. Bridges if we had anything slated for that agenda.

Mr. Bridges responded no but if something does arise over the next couple of days, we are meeting jointly with the Board of Education on the 26th so we can probably put a couple of items together then if we need it to get us past until the 16th. He stated that we don't anticipate anything but if anything comes up in the next couple of days we can tackle it on the 16th with a special meeting.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted. The motion passed 8-0-0. Councilor Montinieri had left the room.

Councilor Kotkin commented that he stepped off during the CL&P presentation and wanted to put that on the record that he did that because he works for an affiliate of Connecticut Light & Power Company.

Deputy Mayor Console asked if they were going to have a discussion tonight for the High School. Mayor Hemmann responded yes, there is a presentation. Deputy Mayor Console asked Mike Turner where his street stands as far as paving and noted that he asked for this information before and still has not received it.

Mr. Turner responded that we only run out the program based on what the Town Council adopts then we do what is known as an ideal scenario which puts all the roads on the table and runs it out regardless of budget and stuff.

Deputy Mayor Console asked where Ivy Lane stands.

Mr. Turner responded that he does not have a specific number and apologized that he didn't understand exactly what he was seeking but can provide the ideal scenario based on no limit of funding. Mr. Turner stated that we do not project out 3 or 5 years.

Deputy Mayor Console asked if in the ideal scenario it will have a date and when a street is scheduled.

Mr. Turner responded that it will generate as a benefit value and the benefit value ranks when each of the roads should be done.

Deputy Mayor Console asked if Mr. Turner can email him that tomorrow.

Mr. Turner responded yes.

Councilor Roberts reported that August 6th was the Annual Night Out sponsored by the Wethersfield Police Department which is held in conjunction with the community. She noted Councilor Drake, Montinieri and Hurley were there and it was a great night and a way for people that usually don't encounter the Police Department in a positive way to get to see what they do. She stated that is was great interaction with the kids. The regional crime van was there which was bought in conjunction with Berlin, Rocky Hill, Newington, Wethersfield and Cromwell which was really amazing. She stated that is was a mobile NCIS crime scene van so a lot of regional cooperation in terms of the staffing of that and how it was purchased and the technology used today is amazing and just wanted to give a shout out to the Police Department because they did a really great job.

Mayor Hemmann reported that she received a couple of communications that came in to us. One is a letter from Alison Tajarian, 99 Hartford Ave. regarding the tree pruning. She stated that we also received an email from Kathleen Clarke, 330 Main Street also addressing the power lines.

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

Mr. Bridges reported that on the agenda we were going to review the street paving policy. Mr. Bridges asked Deputy Mayor Console if his question was answered and if we needed to review the policy.

Deputy Mayor Console responded that he was all set unless someone else wanted to review it.

Mr. Bridges reported that there was a request to review the pond project status. He stated that Mike Turner put together a memo with all the ponds including the ancillary drainage projects we vet each year with the Capitol Improvement Advisory Committee. Mr. Bridges then asked Mike Turner to go over that.

Councilor McAlister commented regarding the street paving and stated that he assumed we could provide a list if we had unlimited funds of the streets in the order of what we would do and then

based off of funding you could say this road will be done in five years, but realistically speaking isn't that setting the wrong expectation for any road on that list past this year because we would enter new information about the weather and traffic conditions for the following year and priority of roads might change the following year so to give anyone in the public the expectation that their street is on the list three years from now might not be in the best interest of the town.

Mr. Bridges responded that is correct.

Mr. Turner explained that what the Manager asked him to do was to prepare a snippet for each of the various pond projects that we have on the books and where we stand with them and stated that Bell Pond and Murphy Pond Dam are the first two. He explained that those were projects that were actually candidates for the 1995 Milone and MacBroom Study and were approved by previous councils and private Flooding and Encroachment Control Boards as projects that we should be going forward with. Mr. Turner explained that the intent is to use the reprogrammed DEP funds to pay for the construction of those projects along with there is approximately \$180,000 of local funds, local match still left in our capital budget towards those projects. He stated that right now, he has met with DEP a couple of weeks back and they are in the process of reviewing permitting requirements for both ponds and then we will be seeking the reprogramming of those dollars.

Mr. Turner explained that the Millwoods swim pond just underwent some major renovation work this summer and he is pleased to report that it is working very well with Kathy and her design team. He stated that at the moment there is no further CIP projects proposed for the pond and water quality itself. He stated that the upper Millwoods Pond is a little different story and explained that the dam was replaced about 10 years ago but that pond itself is severely silted in and that was the subject of the Goff Brook Master Plan where we looked at the five ponds 1860 Reservoir, Griswold Pond, Murphy Pond, Millwoods and Bell Pond. We looked at how much money we were putting into to controlling the algae growth, for instance, every year and all the sediment and we came up with cost estimates for each of those. He explained that those projects are carried in the Capital Budget as funding will allow and we are constantly seeking out if there are grant programs or something like that which could fund those projects and accelerate them down the road, but just that pond itself we are looking at dredging out close to 11,000 cubic yards of sediment right now and it is a very expensive project.

Mr. Turner explained that Griswold Pond is not as bad a shape as upper Millwoods swim area and is part of Millwoods Park. He stated that we are in the process of doing some dam repairs and there is water seeping around the concrete abutment which is called the dam spillway. He explained that process will hopefully be taking place later on this week and added that the pond could also use some dredging and better ways to control the vegetation.

Mr. Turner explained there is a design in place for Cloverdale Pond and this project and the plans are in front of DEP right now getting permits for what is required to essentially dredge that pond and replace the entire dam and spillway. He stated that the estimated cost is about \$80,000 and

we are hearing that figure in the Capital Budget in an out year presuming we will get the permits in place.

Mr. Turner explained that the Spring Street skating pond has had some erosion on the westerly embankment. He explained that the dam overtops and has eroded and our plan is to essentially rebuild that area that washed out, even off the dam itself and provide some erosion control measure to stop that scouring if we could. Mr. Turner stated that that is about \$100,000 project and, again, that is all local money because it wasn't identified in the study as a candidate for any State grant money. He added that it is purely a recreational facility and there are no flood capacity or flood issues that result from not doing that.

Mr. Turner explained that the 1860 Reservoir is still in good shape. He stated that we usually have some beaver issues that we contend with every few years, but basically the big issue there will be providing and maintaining public access into that facility. He stated that again, it was dredged probably in the early 90's and is probably a candidate for dredging and vegetation control as well.

Mr. Turner explained that he also provided an update of what we are calling drainage projects awaiting funding which are projects that we recommend on a yearly basis to the Capital Improvements Advisory Committee for consideration in the town's capital budget. He pointed out that you can see a list of projects that date back as far as 1997 where we have been made aware of the projects, but either through the severity of the project itself or lack of funding they have not risen to the top.

Councilor Roberts thanked Mike and the Town Manager for the detail of the report. Councilor Roberts asked that even though we are waiting for all the DEP stuff to be done is there any way for someone to cut some of those trees at Cloverdale Pond?

Mr. Bridges responded that he did talk to Sally Katz Director of Physical Services and she is working with her crew to get out there and clean it up somewhat.

Mr. Bridges reported that he was appointed to Legislative Task Force on Resource Recovery in Connecticut which is basically looking at the whole issue of waste energy. The first meeting is next week, so as we progress through the end of the year in looking at CRRA's issues and waste-to-energy issues in the State you will see more and more information come out and more reports back on what the future solid waste in Connecticut would be. It's going to be a busy couple of months on that front.

Mayor Hemmann asked if there was an anticipated timeframe.

Mr. Bridges responded that the legislation requires CRRA to complete an audit by the end of the year and the Resource Recovery Task Force is supposed to finish their work by the time of the legislative session so any product or product of the group can be put into legislation for consideration and debate at the next session. Mr. Bridges stated that the overall timeframe is

about 2 years, 48 months from last June to come up with solutions on where we are going to go with solid waste or waste to energy in the State of Connecticut.

Dolores Sassano commented that she received an email tonight from George Ruhe concerning the West Nile Virus and Lime Disease.

COUNCIL ACTION

Deputy Mayor Console moved **“TO APPOINT LISA P. STARON, 28 DORCHESTER RD., (AT LARGE REPRESENTATIVE) TO THE BUILDINGS APPEALS BOARD EFFECTIVE AUGUST 19, 2013 TO JUNE 30, 2018”**, seconded by Councilor Hurley .

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 9-0-0.

Deputy Mayor Console moved **“TO BE IT RESOLVED THAT JEFF BRIDGES, TOWN MANAGER, IS HEREBY AUTHORIZED TO EXECUTE FOR AND ON BEHALF OF THE TOWN OF WETHERSFIELD, A PUBLIC ENTITY ESTABLISHED UNDER THE LAWS OF THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT, AN APPLICATION AND TO FILE IT WITH THE OFFICE OF POLICY AND MANAGEMENT FOR THE PURPOSE OF OBTAINING FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE UNDER THE LOCAL CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM. SAID APPLICATION SHALL BE MADE TO OBTAIN FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR THE ROADWAY RECONSTRUCTION, MILLING AND OVERLAY OF FAIRLANE DRIVE, FROM 100 FEET SOUTH OF GRISWOLD ROAD, SOUTH TO FOX HILL ROAD, ABOUT 2,350 FEET”**, and resolution No. 2:

Deputy Mayor Console moved **“TO BE IT RESOLVED THAT JEFF BRIDGES, TOWN MANAGER, IS HEREBY AUTHORIZED TO EXECUTE FOR AND ON BEHALF OF THE TOWN OF WETHERSFIELD, A PUBLIC ENTITY ESTABLISHED UNDER THE LAWS OF THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT, AN APPLICATION AND TO FILE IT WITH THE OFFICE OF POLICY AND MANAGEMENT FOR THE PURPOSE OF OBTAINING FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE UNDER THE LOCAL CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM. SAID APPLICATION SHALL BE MADE TO OBTAIN FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR THE ROADWAY RECONSTRUCTION, MILLING AND OVERLAY OF THE FOLLOWING STREETS: RIDGECREST CIRCLE, RIDGECREST PLACE, LACAVA LANE, HUNTERS PATH, ACORN WAY, PHEASANT RUN, GLENWOOD DRIVE, RHODES CIRCLE, RIDGEWOOD CIRCLE, CLOVERCREST ROAD, PEBBLE ROAD, PEACH HILL ROAD, WILLOW STREET (PORTION)”**, seconded by Councilor Hurley.

Mr. Bridges explained that these two resolutions allow us to access the Local Capital Improvement Program funding from the State of Connecticut for our Road Pavement Management Program. He explained that this is an annual action and it gets us in the queue for the funding for these particular projects. He stated that this is a program administered by the State and is State money and is part of our \$1.2 million dollar Pavement Management Program.

Mayor Hemmann asked Mr. Turner to walk through how the LOCIP process works from the State down to the towns. She stated that she knows it is part of the budget that we anticipate as revenue from the State of Connecticut but just so that the public understands how that process works and this is something that we have to do like an administrative task.

Mr. Turner explained that it is a little bit different this year and stated that typically, as the Town Manager pointed out, we have set aside \$1.2 million dollars as the money we need to keep our roads in shape and that money consists of our local money, a portion of it is town aid money which comes from the State and LOCIP money which comes from the State. He explained that town aid is an out-right grant, they just give you the money as an entitlement and you spend it as you wish within the program. He stated that with LOCIP you have to identify a specific project and in the past we have identified that needed reconstruction. For instance, Goff Rd. or Church Street, or Middletown Ave., or Jordan Lane as we are doing right now we identified specific projects. We applied for the money and then we draw it down essentially using that money as a checkbook if you will at the State level. Mr. Turner explained that this year was a little bit different because of the way the Governor's budget was established and the elimination of a lot of the pilot money. He stated that they doubled up on the amount of LOCIP money so as Council adopted your budget, the road levy funds locally went down and more of the State LOCIP money went into our road paving program. So when we used to get roughly \$200,000 in LOCIP money, this year we are getting about \$400,000, so we are actually tapping into it for use with our milling and paving and crack sealing program so that is why we have a separate application this evening to apply that money towards those projects as well.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 9-0-0.

Deputy Mayor Consoler moved **"TO NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOVED, THAT THE TOWN OF WETHERSFIELD HEREBY ENDORSES A FAIR HOUSING POLICY TO ENSURE EQUAL OPPORTUNITY FOR ALL PERSONS TO RENT, PURCHASE, OBTAIN FINANCING AND ENJOY ALL OTHER HOUSING-RELATED SERVICES OF THEIR CHOICE ON A NON-DISCRIMINATORY BASIS AS PROVIDED BY STATE AND FEDERAL LAW; AND, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, THAT THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER OF THE TOWN OF WETHERSFIELD OR HIS/HER DESIGNATED REPRESENTATIVE IS RESPONSIBLE FOR RESPONDING TO AND ASSISTING ANY PERSON WHO ALLEGES TO BE THE VICTIM OF AN ILLEGAL DISCRIMINATORY HOUSING PRACTICE IN THE TOWN OF WETHERSFIELD AND FOR ADVISING SUCH PERSON OF THE RIGHT TO FILE A COMPLAINT WITH THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS AND OPPORTUNITIES (CHRO) OR THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT (HUD) OR TO SEEK ASSISTANCE FROM THE CT FAIR HOUSING CENTER, LEGAL SERVICES, OR OTHER FAIR HOUSING ORGANIZATIONS TO PROTECT HIS OR HER RIGHT TO EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES"**, seconded by Councilor Hurley.

Mr. Bridges explained that we participate with the housing authority and certain grants to upgrade their facilities. He stated that those grants are provided by the Department of Housing and Urban Development or HUD and with those grants comes certain responsibilities for fair housing in the community. He added that part of the actions we need to take as grant recipients is to state our policies in regard to fair housing, ADA compliance, and certain other measures. He stated that as you will see later in the agenda we need to reaffirm those or restate those with each grant and the staff would recommend approval.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 9-0-0.

Mayor Hemmann next asked for a motion for 1f action on a Resolution Recommending the Acceptance of an Urban Action Grant of \$500,000 from the State of Connecticut an authorization for the town Manager to effectuate said award.

Councilor Hurley moved **“TO BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE WETHERSFIELD TOWN COUNCIL ACCEPTS AN URBAN ACTION GRANT AWARD FROM THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$500,000 FOR WETHERSFIELD INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS PROJECTS AND AUTHORIZES TOWN MANAGER, JEFFREY K. BRIDGES, TO EXECUTE ALL NECESSARY DOCUMENTS TO EFFECTUATE THE RECEIPT OF SAID AWARD”**, seconded by Deputy Mayor Console.

Mr. Bridges explained that in April of this year, the Connecticut Bond Commission approved a half a million dollars worth of various infrastructure projects of which included, the Loretta's Dream Pavilion, the Emerson Williams Playground, Montanaro Field Drainage Improvement and the Old Wethersfield Intersection Improvement as part of the \$500,000. He explained that the paperwork for that grant requires the adoption of this resolution and basically the Council is in support of the project and you're going to find that those resources go to that project. Mr. Bridges stated that in relation to the Old Wethersfield Intersection Project, it is Staff's intent and believes this intent is directed from the Council, that there is significant public comment in the project design before any course of action is advocated at this point. Mr. Bridges explained that we intend through the fall and the winter to conduct those public information and comment sessions particularly on the Church and Main Street intersection which is the priority under these funds before its design is recommended to the community.

Councilor Drake asked when we accept the \$500,000 do we have to spend all of it? What happens if we come up with a \$100,000 plan? Do we get to spend up to that or are we committing to the \$500,000?

Mr. Bridges responded that if you don't want to spend the money, you can ask for it to be reprogrammed or we can contact the State to see how to give it back. He added that the original request was for four intersections in Old Wethersfield, so if one represents a particular hurdle but we can find resolution on the others, we can spend the money there. Mr. Bridges responded that

we cannot move money outside those windows without permission.

Councilor Drake asked what if the Montanaro Field Drainage costs \$110,000 you would basically tell them it is \$110,000 and you give them back \$15,000.

Mr. Bridges responded that we would probably ask for reprogramming.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 9-0-0.

OTHER BUSINESS

Mayor Hemmann read the next agenda item which is the Small Cities/CDBG grant policy statements and stated that we have the adoption of policy statements.

- The Fair Housing Policy Statement
- The Certification to Affirmatively Further Fair Housing
- The Section 3 Plan
- The Affirmative Action Policy Statement
- The Title VI Policy Statement
- The Discrimination Complaint Procedure
- The Americans with Disabilities Act Notice
- The Americans with Disabilities Act Grievance Procedure

Councilor Roberts moved **“TO ADOPT THE FOLLOWING AS ATTACHED”**, seconded by Deputy Mayor Console.

Mr. Bridges explained that these are elements to our compliance with the requirements of the HUD Grants we get whether they are through the Small Cities Program or direct from HUD basically for improvements to the Housing Authority. So these have to be restated or stated annually or with each grant for compliance.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 9-0-0.

Deputy Mayor Console moved **“TO APPROVE A COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT SMALL CITIES HOUSING REHABILITATION LOAN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TOWN AND THE METROPOLITAN DISTRICT EMPLOYEE’S CREDIT UNION FOR 579 RIDGE ROAD”**, seconded by Councilor Manousos.

Mr. Bridges explained this came in this afternoon and this is actually a subordination agreement of the existing loans. He stated that this particular property owner is refinancing the house so we need to subordinate our loans to the new mortgage. He stated that we have done this before on this particular property two years ago and they are again seeking to refinance and would make that approval condition upon final review by the Town Attorney.

Mayor Hemmann stated that we discussed this several weeks ago and asked if it was this particular property or another one.

Mr. Bridges replied that we talked about this property several weeks ago and we talked about that this would be coming up but any of those properties with those particular housing loans every time they want to refinance, we are going to see that.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 9-0-0.

Mayor Hemmann read the next agenda item 3d, and asked for a motion.

Deputy Mayor Console moved **“TO APPROVE AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TOWN OF WETHERSFIELD AND THE CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY SERVICES AND PUBLIC PROTECTION, DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AND HOMELAND SECURITY FOR A WETHERSFIELD MULTIPLE GENERATOR INSTALLATION GRANT. (TOTAL PROJECT AWARD \$476,700, FEDERAL SHARE \$357,525, TOWN SHARE \$119,175. LOCATIONS FOR REPLACEMENT GENERATORS ARE: COMMUNITY CENTER, THREE FIRE STATIONS, PHYSICAL SERVICES, NATURE CENTER, AMBULANCE FACILITY, TOWN HALL)”**, seconded by Councilor Manousos.

Mr. Bridges explained that Sally and Heather Vargas at Physical Services along with Mike and RaeAnn put together a very outstanding Grant through Homeland Security that will replace eight generators which would take us decades through the Capital Improvement Program process and explained that this is a three-year Grant that we spend over three years. Mr. Bridges stated that in the existing budget today, we have \$38,000 for one of these generators, so \$38,000 a year for the next three years to get us almost there which is about \$5,000 short of the program. He stated that basically our share is funded through the CIP if we maintain the existing level of effort so this is good money. He explained that we intend to replace three of these per year to make sure we get them appropriately bid and installed so this is a great job from the Staff on getting this done and we are excited about it and we are one of the first in the State to get award the grant.

Councilor Drake commented that this is a real nice gift as this has been kicking around on the CIP forever and ever.

Deputy Mayor Console asked what do we do with the generators go off line are they going to be auctioned off or used someplace else?

Mr. Bridges responded that the rules are we are not supposed to reuse those because they are supposed to be basically unserviceable at this point and some of them are because we cannot get parts.

Deputy Mayor Console asked if it was environmental reasons also.

Mr. Bridges responded that the case we made is that they were severely out-of-date and break down quite often so the reusability was questionable. He stated that if we can refurbish one, we can probably make use of it, but just taking them out of there is probably going to dismantle them.

Mayor Hemmann asked with regards to the Town Hall is it large enough to cover the Library?

Mr. Bridges responded no, we had to do existing replacement.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted. The motion passed 9-0-0.

Mayor Hemmann read the next agenda Item 3e and asked for a motion.

Councilor Drake moved **“TO CANCEL THE SEPTEMBER 3, 2013 TOWN COUNCIL MEETING”**, seconded by Councilor Montinieri.

Mayor Hemmann explained that we talked about cancelling this meeting. There was nothing scheduled for the agenda and after discussion with the Town Manager and the current agenda that we have to date, so bringing it forward to council for a vote.

Deputy Mayor Console commented that he is going to vote no on this because he thinks it is important that every two weeks we have a meeting in town and there is always public comment so he would like to see the meeting even if it is for ½ hour on that date just to hear from the public.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted. The motion passed 8-1-0. Deputy Mayor Console voted No.

BIDS

Councilor Hurley moved **“TO AUTHORIZE THE TOWN MANAGER TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT WITH OCEAN AND COASTAL CONSULTANTS FOR THE FINAL DESIGN AND BID SPECIFICATIONS FOR THE COVE DOCKS AND BOAT LAUNCH, CONTINGENT UPON TOWN ATTORNEY APPROVAL OF THE FINAL CONTRACT DOCUMENT ”**, seconded by Councilor Manousos.

Mr. Bridges asked Kathy Bagley to come forward and talk about this agenda item.

Ms. Bagley explained that this project is to do the final design plans for the cove docks and boat launch ramp for Wethersfield Cove. She stated that we are closer to an agreement with the State and the Federal Government on the boating infrastructure grant and are trying to just position ourselves to be ready to go once that paperwork is completed. Ms. Bagley explained that we asked Ocean and Coastal for a proposal to complete the work and they have done the original

design plans as we went to the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection for the State and we received the permit for that which now allows us to go forward and actually put together the bid specifications and the final design plans for the dock and the boat launch ramp.

Councilor Kotkin asked if things go really well when would the work begin.

Ms. Bagley responded that it's a good question because the design work can start as soon as the contract with the State and Feds is put together and they have told us that the design work remaining is about 4 to 6 weeks roughly and they could start on the dock design work right away which would be our first priority because that is what's funded. She stated that then depending on how that works out some of that work might be able to start late Fall or early Spring.

Councilor Kotkin asked how long it would take once it's started.

Ms. Bagley responded that it's not that long because it is the installation of the docks themselves and putting them in and it's putting the anchors into the bottom of the Cove so that's really we will have to bring a barge up but I'm not sure where the barge would come from, I always consider it comes up from the Sound but it would be something like that that would be one of the areas we would look at.

Councilor Kotkin asked if it could be done next spring.

Ms. Bagley responded that depending on the spring water level and if there is any flooding or tremendously high water, it would be affected a little bit by really high water but not normal high water if that makes sense. She stated that we had a tough season this summer because of the high water.

Councilor Kotkin commented that there is dredging that has now been approved and do we know what the timetable for that is.

Ms. Bagley responded that the Army Core has told us they are going to be ready to bid it out shortly and look for a timeframe between December and March coming up to do the dredging.

Councilor Kotkin commented that it is good that the dredging will be done before the docks.

Councilor Manousos commented on the compensation section of the agreement point out a couple of line items, the bid assistance budget and the construction administration and asked if those costs are not to exceed amounts.

Ms. Bagley responded yes.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 9-0-0.

Mayor Hemmann read the next agenda item 4b and asked for a motion.

Deputy Mayor Console moved **“TO AWARD THE CONTRACT FOR BID 1.02 SITE WORK TO SPAZZARINI CONSTRUCTION OF ENFIELD CT FOR \$7,258,000 PLUS AWARD OF THE ALTERNATE BIDS #1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 11, 12, AND 14 WHICH TOTAL \$396,000 FOR A TOTAL AWARD OF \$7,654,000, WITH THE STIPULATION THAT ALTERNATES MAY BE DELETED FROM THE CONTRACT BY DECEMBER 1, 2013”**, seconded by Councilor Drake.

Mr. Bridges explained that Phase I includes the site work for the High School Project. He stated that we bided it out and the results of the bids are here this evening. He stated that at the last Council meeting, there were a series of questions that the Council had regarding the site layout and the design elements of the site itself. Mr. Bridges stated that we have put those questions to the Committee and our Consultants and they are going to make a presentation on the overall site layout and the decision process that was made to get us to this point on the site and then ask for your approval of the site bids or some alternative action that Council would like to see happen. Mr. Bridges then asked Christine Fortunato to begin that process.

Christine Fortunato brought up a PowerPoint presentation on the screen. She explained that Town Manager did share with the Committee a series of questions that were raised at the last meeting. She stated that they discussed it at their meeting and have put together a PowerPoint presentation that their Architect, Rusty Malik will begin with and then we have Laurel Purcell, our Construction Manager from O&G who will provide some additional information. She stated that we are joined by the Superintendent and school administrators to be able to answer any questions you may have about the Education Specifications, the Curriculum and there are several members of the Building Committee that are here as well as some members of the Board of Education. Christine invited Rusty Malik up to the podium.

Mr. Malik explained that he is going to go over a lot of the information that was shared previously and just focus on specific areas that have been raised as questions or just confirmation as we move through. He commented that when we started the project, there were certain site imperatives that were established for the project and these included items such as ADA or accessibility throughout the site and was something that was mandated also by some reports and we knew we had to do that to make the entire site compliant. Mr. Malik explained that this included not only access to the building but also access to the fields and the bleachers and all aspects of the project as well as addressing parking and the ability to have handicapped accessible parking in the right number and locations throughout the site. He stated that another imperative was site safety and includes items such as traffic patterns in the sense of how the buses and parent cars, etc. interact and circulate through the site and how the students come in and so on. He explained that we have items such as community use and how the site is used by the community as well as by the school for academics and both had to be considered, therefore educational programs had to be an integral component of all solutions. We had to make sure that we defined entrances to each of the buildings and look at emergency access throughout this facility because there are times where emergency vehicles have to access the site so these are some of the imperatives that came when we started the design phase of this project. Mr. Malik

explained as we go through and look at the education specifications we understand that there are some fixed assets here. One is the building, it is where it is and we had gone through an evaluation process in terms of defining where the additions are so these become sort of fixed components of the site. Including with that is the athletic fields that are on the lowest tier of the site. As you all know, the site slopes and it has various levels as you go down and the athletic fields are at the very lowest level with turf fields and the track, etc. and that is another fixed component. Mr. Malik explained that items such as the main entrances and the parking itself in terms of where it is located. So these were some of the assets that we are dealing with as we develop the site. He explained that we looked at numerous options and we've been through as many as 20 different options despite changes to each one of them and have gone through that process with the Building Committee, Planning & Zoning, Wetlands with every agency and moved things around and adjusted them to get us the best results for this particular site. He stated that one of the biggest issues that we had was where is parking located and how we separate the bussing and parent drop-off. (Mr. Malik then referred to his PowerPoint presentation which is attached to the end of these minutes and available for complete viewing at the Wethersfield Community Television website. A DVD is also available for viewing at the Town Clerks Office). Mr. Malik stated that where we ended up with this particular plan was that we were able to locate the busses off of Wolcott Hill; in fact, this was a complete reversal of one of the earlier plans because the design was such that we could make it a complete option. So we have the bus access off of Wolcott Hill and we were able to divide and locate the parent access off of Jay Street and along Eagle Drive. As you can see that they are completely separated from each other yet there is the opportunity to cross over when it's appropriate, the security gates have been included in the overall site design. Mr. Malik explained that we have allowed for dedicated student parking which is occurring on the north side of the parking lot and we have looked at numerous options including having parent drop-off at the north side as well and concluded after much deliberation that the intensity of the use would be best with just maintaining student access and student parking on the north side. He added that we have to maintain access to the service area such as the loading dock and service to the building and we had to make sure that there is accessible parking on the north side so you can see where there is a number of parking spaces there the intensive of use has been controlled to a high degree to minimize that particular use. One component that became a major issue is the emergency access coming off of Wintergreen that is something that currently exists. We have made that the access behind the tennis court available to the emergency vehicles and have modified the site plan to allow for appropriate turning radiuses, etc. for all emergency vehicles thereby allowing ingress and egress and even the road right alongside the high school has been widened in order to accomplish that. He explained that when we looked at the concern because there was a lot of discussion about are we introducing too much traffic on the north side. We not only looked at it ourselves in terms of our designer and site planners but also vetted it with Planning & Zoning and had our own traffic consulting that was retained as part of the design team, we met with the Police Dept., Fire Dept and all agencies and met with the State Traffic Commission in terms of providing the information to them and getting their feedback. Mr. Malik stated that all the suggestions were incorporated into the plan and it was our opinion at the end of that design phase that this provided the greatest amount of safety and improvement to the existing site. As part of this renovation, there are a couple of components in terms of the athletic amenities that are on this

site. He stated that we have the artificial turf on the west side and one of the concerns was how do we deal with the north side and introducing parking there when you have a softball field. Mr. Malik explained as we went through the consideration of the program we know that the tennis courts have some structural issues with the base of the tennis court and in order to renovate the tennis court, we have to remove them and replace them. As a result of that what happened we were able to position the tennis courts in their new location which is really a minimal change but it is a significant change in the sense it allowed us to provide the required emergency access and egress on the site so these lanes both to the north and south of the tennis courts were adjusted and were able to provide the adjustments to the tennis courts, knowing that we had to replace the tennis courts anyway that was a way of handling the emergency access. The softball field was relocated to the turf field which in addition provided us with the number of parking spaces that are more approximately to the more public zones of the building. Mr. Malik stated that questions came up about parking and this was certainly quite a debate. The existing count and is by 410 and not all these can be considered legal spaces but we counted every space that we thought would be a parking space there. That is what exists in the base project and I say base project because we have alternates for additional parking. We have about 526 parking spaces and an additional 25 handicapped accessible spaces with alternates that were discussed and the alternates are additional parking on the south side and also parking right adjacent to the main entrance. Mr. Malik explained that the parking adjacent to the main entrance, there is about 11 spaces there and that was something that was suggested and Planning & Zoning felt that is was something that it was something that was important to have right at the entrance of the building. It has been defined as an alternate to the project at this point. So that is where we are with the existing parking and also with the additional parking and that result of this is about 141 spaces as base bid and if alternates are ultimately accrued that would add about 205 additional parking spaces to the project. You see the chart there about the number of parking spaces required; this is based on the number of teachers, visitors, administrators and handicapped accessible spaces. It is a formula that one has to comply with and then institute in parking. So that number came to about 551 in terms of total parking required. As you can see under the base bid including handicapped accessible parking we are looking at 551. The question then comes to where do we draw the line as to what the minimum parking is versus how much more parking we can have. As we are all aware, during events, whether it's a football games or even use of the auditorium or gymnasium, one of the concerns is always where do people park and I'm just looking at event parking at this point but there is certainly certain events that open house where there is a lot of traffic with parents coming into this school and certainly it is almost impossible in many cases to design for that level of parking but in our case here with the 551 parking spaces as base bid will going up to about 600 parking spaces with the alternates and that is approximately with a need for the event parking occurs of where we think it can be managed. Now this is taking into account that there could potentially be a couple of events going on at the school at the same time.

Councilor McAlister asked where is the access to Add Alternate Parking 53 spaces.

Mr. Malik responded it is just an extension of the larger parking and just continues down there and is new parking.

Mr. Malik explained that as we looked at the options for parking this has always been a discussion and with many different ideas about what the best solution would be. He explained that some of the things that were considered is where should we locate the parking and the question really comes up is that is the north side where the parking is the appropriate location for this particular site. If you consider where all the events occur which are on this side of the building and down at the athletic fields that is the most approximate location for parking? He stated that we looked at many other options. We looked at numerous options where we tried to relocate the tennis courts. We looked at an option where we tried to maximize parking on the south side and fortunately as we all know with the additions and those additions are a function of how the building itself is designed in terms of existing building and how you add to it that we were losing parking on the south side of the building so we have to replace parking. These 200 plus spaces are the closest to the athletic fields, they are close to the school itself and down the main hall which is where the auditorium, gymnasium and assembly type functions occur and was the best location to add parking to the school. If you were to go by the number of spaces that are needed for this project, this particular layout gave us the greatest number of spaces that could populate this particular site. Mr. Malik then explained some other options that were discussed including off-site parking.

Councilor Montinieri commented that it was his understanding that we have three entrance ways that are active in the morning. A parent drop-off on the south end, a student parking main entrance on the north and then the bus drop-off at the community entrance.

Mr. Malik responded that the bus drop-off is right here off of Wolcott Hill. So the busses come in, drop off and leave.

Councilor Montinieri confirmed that you are creating three entries into the building.

Mr. Malik responded yes. The students that get dropped off come in right onto the main entrance from the bus. Parents drop off, they come in, they line up, they drop off in the student entrance and the parent drop-off entrance is right there and then the students come in and park and their entrance is right there (Mr. Malik referred to a slide of his presentation).

Councilor Montinieri commented that he assumes that there are three security issues then.

Mr. Malik responded that there are three secure entrances with vestibules in those three locations. He explained that as soon as the school begins operation, the only place anyone else can come in it would be the main entrance so that becomes the main point of entry after students have access to the building.

Superintendent Emmett commented that what we make sure that we do is have whatever entrances that we have open we will have staffed as is currently the case now where we have parent drop-off, we have administration waiting in the morning, we also have administration up at the bus drop-off at the main entrance. So whatever entrances we use for either parent drop-off, bussing, or student drop-off, we will have administration security staff available.

Councilor Montinieri asked if that has been raised as a concern because I'm thinking in terms of professional security present as opposed to administrators. You are creating three needs as opposed to one. Has that been raised?

Superintendent Emmett responded correct and that is an issue that we have at this point now. We have two security staff now in the building. We have one at the main entrance, we have another one that is out monitoring traffic up in the upper area and again it is going to be paramount among all of our parents and our students to follow rules in terms of where drop-off is. On days where we have a rainy morning you've got parents mixing with busses, mixing with students so we are really going to have to educate our students and parents as well to make sure that we are using the appropriate entrances.

Councilor Montinieri asked what is the security gate reference.

Mr. Malik responded that those gates are primarily there to control traffic so that we don't have people trying to cut across. You currently have one of those gates at the main entrance at the circle and these gates are really there because we don't want anybody driving up to those areas. Those areas are dedicated for emergency vehicles.

Superintendent Emmett commented the security that is there now that is closed in the morning what ends up happening when we open it in the afternoon when school is over, you will tend to see cars cutting through the parking lot in an effort to avoid the traffic light at the intersection of Wells and Wolcott Hill?

Councilor McAlister commented the parking lot on the south side #64, that is currently where a lot of parents drop off now and has been a topic of concern for parent and asked to explain the traffic flow into that and questioned if that is one way.

Mr. Malik explained that what will happen is everybody will come in off Jay Street and go through the loop, drop off and then exit down Eagle Drive and then exist onto Folly Brook. He stated that there are some off-site turning lanes that are being established for the traffic flow in that particular case and in the afternoon, this gives us maximum queuing space for parents and in many cases what will happen, parents won't even come into the loop they will just come across and drop off and we are looking at a sidewalk all along Eagle Drive.

Councilor McAlister asked so when you come in on Jay can you take a left on Eagle.

Mr. Malik responded yes.

Councilor McAlister asked then half way down between those two lines, (referring to a slide) is that an entrance into the lot?

Mr. Malik responded yes that is.

Councilor McAlister commented that is what is happening now. Parents come up Eagle and pull in the lot and it makes two drop-offs for parents but I guess I'm a little concerned that that is one way now and they can't there is only one entrance off of Jay onto the site and right now there is two. Councilor McAlister stated that he believes that is a pretty big concern because in the mornings it's busy and hectic as it is and now the choke point is all on Jay Street and believes the residents there would have some serious issues.

Mr. Malik responded that this was reviewed with Planning & Zoning and some of these comments and some of these design ideas came through discussions with them and also with the traffic consultants because as they look at how the traffic flow is through this particular site and what the best solution is and that is how it has been derived really as we move forward.

Mr. Malik asked Lorel Purcell to come up and talk about the geothermal savings.

Ms. Purcell commented that a question was asked what the savings was for geothermal and since we have not bid the HVAC yet, right now it is just an estimated savings and we have that at \$1,639,993. She explained that the biggest savings component is the elimination of the 220 wells. The drilling for those wells, the piping that connects them and all the excavation and backfill, and all the site work that is associated with those wells. The HVAC system inside the building, the value is basically the same so really the major savings is from the site work. As far as utility-enclosure goes, somebody had questioned about the 20-foot louvered fence that was something that was put into the design and there was an analysis done of that fence from an acoustical standpoint and it was determined that it was not needed and it was a very expensive item when we bid it the first time. We are putting in an 8-foot high chain link fence that the area is still secure and there will be a row of arborvitaes to help from the sound and the equipment that is located within this fenced in enclosure will have sound attenuating covers on it. They know that they need to meet Planning & Zoning's sound requirements.

Deputy Mayor Console asked if there has been and he knows it has been an estimate on the HVAC at this point and can go either way, but has the study been done the difference of say over a 20 year period for the estimated fuel use compared to the geothermal over the years.

Mr. Malik responded that we did a quick analysis. It is a difficult analysis to conduct because there are so many changes that are occurring as a result of it, but what I did is look at the cost of fuel as it currently exists. Remember we are changing the building almost entirely so there is going to be a shift in the dollars and that is what ends up driving everything. He explained that we looked at that, we are adding to the building and that is going to add fuel costs, so when we looked at the analysis, what we did is we said o:k here is what the existing conditions are based on current. We projected those costs up based on the additional square footage that was going to be added to the building and then we looked at the cost of the geothermal and what the anticipated energy savings were based on some energy models, but again, it is what you put into that model, that is what is giving the information back. He stated that based on their analysis initially, we have looked at a savings on an annual basis of about \$90,000. That number began to

come down because even as we changed and went to geothermal before we were eliminating geothermal, we had to make some modifications because the largest spaces such as the auditorium and gymnasium were not conducive to the geothermal utilization so we had already modified the plan to a little around two thirds of the project using geothermal. So as we did that analysis what we were looking at as a 12 to 14 year payback. He stated that initially when we looked at the program as a whole we were anticipating some grounds for the geothermal, but those sort of went by the wayside because the deadlines are over and there is no more funding available there. But as a result, we were looking at a 12-14 year payback possibly with a \$60,000 annual cost. When you take that and put it into the cost of the savings it was certainly going to go way beyond that timeframe so the savings is there in the long-term but our feeling is that the 1.6 plus million is certainly going to take a long time to get there.

Deputy Mayor Console asked what he would prefer to put in if he were building a new building a geothermal system or HVAC.

Mr. Malik responded that he is biased in a sense because he believes in sustainability and has geothermal in his own home. He feels that regardless of the cost, for him, he feels that it was the right thing to do. He stated that if asking from a dollars and sense point of view, no it doesn't make sense, but on an impact on the environment, he would prefer to see geothermal in this project.

Deputy Mayor Console asked what is easier in a mechanical point of view.

Mr. Malik responded that in the advantage that we have here, we have gas available to us. If we didn't have gas available, we would be having a completely different discussion. He explained that with natural gas available we are now able to use equipment that has an upper 90% efficiency factor and that is making the difference here. That equipment also runs a lot cleaner; there are fewer components to maintain. Mr. Malik stated that he is not a mechanic and the question of whether it is going to take more to maintain, his guess would be that it is going to pretty much be a wash.

Ms. Purcell explained that another question that was raised was regarding the bleachers and there was a question on what we thought we were going to save with the bleachers. She stated that in talking with our site manager, the savings was approximately \$75,000 and just to be clear the amount of seats that were eliminated or changed, all that we are doing is giving you back the same capacity that you have now.

Mr. Moore stated that just to make sure that this is understood, the project called for an increase in the capacity for bleachers. So in this value engineering exercise we just went back to what the capacity is right now. Of course, we are going to be changing home and visitor sides in order to have the press box not have the need for an elevator in terms of being ADA compliant. Mr. Moore stated that there are only limited occasions where the capacity doesn't handle the crowd but for every other circumstance that bleacher capacity handles the amount of people that we have.

Ms. Purcell explained that one of the changes that we made was to change a material that is running under the baseball from reinforced concrete pipe (RCP) to high density polyethylene (HDPE) and that was really just to be consistent with the rest of the storm drainage piping that is being installed that really wasn't supposed to be RCP to begin with. It should have been HDPE, that is what all the rest of the storm drainage storage pipe is that we are putting in place and it is a somewhat cheaper material. She stated that the pipe that is running under the baseball field is not for draining the baseball it is actually for carrying drainage from the parking lots and the high school building. She stated that another question was on the changing on the bituminous pavement. Ms. Purcell showed two pictures and explained that there are two pavement profiles that we have. We have parking lot pavement and drive pavement. She explained that the parking lot pavement is really just where cars are going to be parking and there are two layers. The top section has got two layers they have what is called a binder course that is an inch and a half layer and then there is a one-inch layer on top of that called a wearing course. So it is a total 2.5". That particular pavement section will be in the parking lots that you see that are light grey that is located above the tennis courts within the parent drop-off loop that light grey, also below the tennis courts most of that pavement in there is also that first section. The bottom section which is a 3" binder course with an inch and a half which is what we have reduced the half inch off of that profile only, will still give you 4" inches of pavement and that is where all the drives are, so the entire drive that is coming in off of Wolcott Hill, the entire bus loop, what's going around the loop to the main entrance and the loop where the parents are going to drive around because they anticipate the busses going through that loop and also on the south side of the tennis courts going up to the loading dock is all this heavy duty pavement as well as when you come in off of Wintergreen you take an immediate right, this is the emergency access only which is that little road that is north of the tennis courts and loops around is all this heavy duty pavement so there was quite a bit of it and the half inch, by shaving that off, there is a lot of areas where these two pavements interface with each other so it makes it much easier to work it in the field if both top layers are an inch that they are equal.

Mr. Turner explained that the town standard in our zoning regulation is only 2 inches of pavement required. So what is actually being proposed is more than double that. The four inches of pavement is our typically road cross section. So we are building these parking lots heavy duty driveways to the same construction standard as our roads are being built.

Mr. Purcell then explained the definition of 100% reimbursement. She stated that 100% reimbursement means that an item of work is 100% eligible. That just means that all costs associated with that particular item of work is fully eligible for reimbursement by the State. So if your reimbursement rate for this project is 50.71% that means for every dollar that you spend on a fully eligible item, you will receive 50.71 cents to pay towards that so I just want to make sure that the definition 100% reimbursement vs. 100% fully eligible is clear. She stated that there are some items in the scope of work that is limited reimbursement and these are definitions that are given by the State with what types of work they feel are limited reimbursement. A lot of it has to do with athletic fields or bleachers or auditorium seating if your auditorium is oversized, but again these are definitions given by the State and the scope of the work for your project. We

have to meet renovation status and in order to meet renovation status; every facility that is on the property has to be treated like new. When we are done with this construction project every aspect of the building and the grounds have to have a life expectancy of as if it was new. So that is why you cannot pick and choose on your scopes of work really when it comes to doing certain items. Ms. Purcell stated that there was a question about the financial obligation. She stated that so far with the changes that are being considered, your obligation is actually decreasing because with the mezzanine that is actually helping with the square footage on the project because right now the building is oversized. Ms. Purcell explained that the last item that she is going to talk about is where the contingency stand. She explained that the way that we do an estimate is it starts with a schematic design estimate and is called an SDS estimate. There is not a lot on the drawings, but there is a lot of concepts still, there is ideas and so what happens when we do a schematic design estimate we are not only picking up the pieces of what we see on the drawings, we also leave what is called contingencies for items that we think are going to show up, they just haven't been drawn yet. So we carry that contingency it is called design/estimate contingency because there could be items that Rusty hasn't contemplated yet or they could be things that we didn't estimate. Maybe we didn't have grading plans available and there could be more grading that is involved or we didn't at that time determine that some existing storm drainage could be reused and in another design it turns out that we have to replace storm drainage. So it is those types of items that this contingency is held for. So with our estimate that we did back in schematic design we had \$2,826,415 in design estimate contingency. As the drawings progressed and we get to the working document estimate which is what we did in May, as the drawings progressed it is natural progression for that contingency to what we say move up into construction. In other words it comes out of that line item and it goes to offset where it is getting absorbed by the construction and that is what's supposed to happen. When we go out to bid that is actually going to be zero. We are still not out to bid with the entire project so that is why we are not releasing the dollars yet. So there is still that \$487,000 in design estimate contingency. Escalation is the same idea. When we get to our schematic design estimate. Really it's just a percentage of the construction costs and when we project bidding the project. So back in schematic design which was in October, we had a much bigger escalation number because we were that much further from bidding and as we worked towards the timeframe, it keeps getting less and that also will go to zero the day of the bid, but for now we are holding money there. She stated that there is a construction contingency that is also a mere percentage of construction costs. So back at schematic design, we must have had more in construction costs whose \$2,907,000 and it's that same percentage, 5%, we have been carrying that continuously. So that 5% is still not touched. That will be there the day of the bid. That will stay unless we happen to be under budget. The extra funds will probably go into there. Owners contingency is also a percentage usually based on the owner's costs and that started out in schematic design at \$597,755 working documents it dropped to \$397,000 and that was more to pay for the asbestos consultant and all the sampling that was getting done and the only that has affected it since then is to hire the local reviewer. We had \$10,000 in the budget for that but it was \$48,000 for that so that is the difference between those two numbers. So just so that you understand the progression of the contingencies, the owner's contingency and the construction contingency, they stay for when the bids come in but those two other items get absorbed into the bids and I want to make sure that you understood that as well. Ms. Purcell stated that that is the conclusion of their presentation.

Councilor Kotkin asked if the energy efficiency rebates from the gas and electric companies will be available for the project because of the high efficiency system and do we have an estimate of what those will be and how we plan on using them.

Mr. Turner responded that town has actually entered into an agreement with CL&P to do an energy model before and after based on the final construction. He explained that what they do is basically look at the percentage of energy cost reduction that you are looking at, the base rate was about 25% savings in energy costs throughout the building equates to a dollar figure. Right now the mechanical engineer is targeting close to 30% reduction and that is going to be a substantial number up in the \$300,000 to \$400,000 range based on where the actual number falls. That is what the rebate will be to us and that is not counted at all in any of these figures. That will come off the town's share.

Councilor Kotkin commented that the expectations will be credited against the cost of the project to the town. Councilor Kotkin asked if there is also a CNG rebate in addition to a CL&P rebate that we would be eligible for.

Mr. Turner responded that they are modeling the entire energy of the building. It will factor in the windows, the insulation, all of that will be factored in.

Councilor Kotkin asked if the tennis courts are getting closer to the building.

Ms. Malik responded that they are moved two or three feet south.

Councilor Kotkin commented that there were a lot of issues with tennis courts in the past due to some underground stream or water movement and asked if we have accounted for that in the construction.

Ms. Purcell responded that underneath these tennis courts there is a whole drainage piping system just dedicated to the tennis court area.

Councilor Kotkin commented that that doesn't exist for the existing courts so that's probably our current problem more or less.

Mr. Malik responded that is the reason for the structural problems with the tennis courts, they will continue to deteriorate. If you just try to patch them, you will be patching them forever.

Councilor Kotkin just wanted to make sure that there was some accounting for that and asked if the parking lot that is east of the tennis courts pretty much the same size that it is now more or less.

Mr. Malik responded that it is increasing by about 20 spaces to 98 spaces.

Councilor Kotkin commented that behind the tennis courts there is very narrow strip between that and the property that is on Westway and to my recollection there is a slope to that so you have the emergency drive that I guess you need in case the main road is blocked. What are you doing back there to create an 18-foot wide drive and still stay on our side.

Mr. Malik responded that the whole area is being graded not only to make for the egress and access for emergency vehicles but just in general because there is a step down right there between after you get past the tennis courts and the softball field, there is quite a grade change so that whole area of the site is being regarded to make it a more gradual slope and to allow the appropriate gradations on the pavement.

Councilor Kotkin asked if the tennis courts will be a fairly similar grade to the parking lot.

Ms. Purcell responded that there is a slight step-up.

Councilor Kotkin asked that on the north side, you are able to create that emergency road without obviously getting too close to the property owner's backyard on Westway and asked if the property owners on Westway aware that there is going to be a road back there behind their back yard.

Mr. Malik responded yes, they have had meetings with them and that is why you see a lot of vegetation on that side too.

Councilor Montinieri asked about price escalation that is associated with post-recession pickup with contractors getting busier and notwithstanding we built contingency and asked two questions. Where is our flexibility if costs continue to escalate as we go through each piece in terms of where we are going to identify. He stated that he knows we have already done some adjustments and in light of that answer have we had dialogue with parent groups about those priorities in case something more significant than asphalt needs to be addressed.

Ms. Purcell responded we have noticed just in July with two other school projects coming in for bid which is when this first site bid came in that the site was high on all three of the projects and also the HVAC, plumbing and electrical were also higher. What O&G is doing is we are using the drawings that have gone up to the State final design, we are actually doing another estimate and are only concentrating on those areas where we have seen this increase and we are going to make sure that we have a good handle on where we think these costs are. So it's not just the HVAC plumbing and electrical, we are also going to check the steel, our demo and abatement number, our masonry and our drywell numbers. We are actually doing a whole estimate with those particular trades on the latest drawings so that we have time. We were supposed to be done with that estimate in two weeks and we just started it last Tuesday so we missed the Building committee meeting that is next Monday. We will definitely have the information for their meeting on the 9th. If we do think that there is going to be an issue with these particular trades, we are going to do the same exercise that we did for the site which is to identify items that either can be turned into an alternate or possible deductions. This will give us a very good idea of

where we think the numbers are for those particular trades that we noticed in the last two months are different and have been increased.

Councilor Montinieri asked about the second question regarding what level of parent participation particularly the groups that were involved in getting the referendum passed, how active has that group been in looking at where cuts could happen within the next 90 days.

Mr. Moore responded that we are at the mercy of our construction manager in terms of any type of value engineering ideas that they come forward with so when in fact that we do have to approach that, that is when we would gather the parental input into that, but until then really we just have this project. We are not anticipating a large-scale value engineering piece based on what the estimates are but again if that does happen, certainly there is no question that we would have to get input not only from the parents, but certainly initially from our Board of Education as well as our central office administration.

Councilor Montinieri asked what the timeframe on that was if we are getting squeezed in terms of getting this up to the State for approval.

Ms. Purcell responded that we will be done with these numbers mid-week next week so we will know where we stand.

Deputy Mayor Console asked if he thought that it would be appropriate to go out to another referendum and have a special referendum in December to ask the voters for another \$5 million dollars and asked if it would be an appropriate thing to do at this point so we are not cutting too many corners and decreasing the design of the building in a way when it is finished it is not completed like we thought it would be finished and then we are suffering 10 and 15 years down the road.

Councilor Roberts responded that she doesn't think that that is a decision that the Building Committee can make. That would be something that the Town Council would have to approve.

Deputy Mayor Console responded that he understands and that he is just getting to the point that with what we have seen so far and the difference in bids coming in that I think to complete the project and have it come out the way we want it to come out so it stands up for the next 20 years so we are not having any issues down the road or cutting things out that we wished we put in before with Webb school and the windows will never get done, maybe it is appropriate to have a discussion with this council or the committee together to see if we have to go back out to referenda to ask for another \$5 million dollars from the tax payers.

Councilor Roberts commented that she thinks it is speculative and that we have a long way to go and as Lorel said these bids might be over but there could be other ones in the future that come in under. Councilor Roberts commented that at our last meeting one of the Councilors said that half of our contingency had been spent and put that out there like it was failure to complete and now tonight you are saying that it is not true at all.

Ms. Purcell responded that when you say half of the contingency, when you look at the Munis report, all the contingencies, you saw that there are three of them lumped together on the Munis report so when I showed you the progression of design estimate contingent escalation that is what, it's not being spent, those funds are being reallocated just how they are supposed to be as you go from estimate to estimate. The construction contingency has not been spent.

Councilor Drake commented that there is not anybody in this room right now other than Lorell right now that can say that we are \$3 to \$5 million dollars short and Phase II will come out in the next two or three weeks. He stated that if we have a problem we all got to get together and maybe we do what you are talking about. We are so far from that. Are we off course, no. Would we like to do more, maybe, but the idea that we are \$3 to \$5 million dollars short nobody in this room but Lorel can say that.

Deputy Mayor Console commented that he understands and all he is saying is with the cuts that are being made and some of the things that are being reduced out, we should really take a strong look at it, maybe we need more money to do these things.

Councilor Drake comments that he talks to Christine all the time and there is no question if that comes to case we will be right here real quickly and say we have a problem but we are not there yet. He commented that he understands what Deputy Mayor Console is saying but from 0-10, we are at 2 right now if that.

Councilor Manousos agrees that it is way too premature before we even have Phase II bids to make that assessment. Councilor Manousos next questioned the parking and wanted to confirm that Jay Street is going to be two-way at all times, but Eagle Drive will be one-way at all times.

Mr. Malik confirmed that only during drop-off and pick-up it is going to be one way.

Councilor Manousos asked what is Folly Brook Blvd. during drop-off and pick-up.

Mr. Malik responded that it is one way out during drop-off and pick-up.

Councilor Manousos commented that we are going to have one sole entrance into the property on Jay Street during drop-off and pick-up. He asked if there is going to be a light somewhere on Wells that is going to control traffic.

Mr. Turner responded that what we are looking at on Folly Brook is adding turning lanes so you have a dedicated left-turn lane and dedicated right-turn lane so that we can queue cars that want to turn left on Folly Brook exiting onto Wells. They can stack and then there is free-flowing movement to the right. There will be two lanes coming out of Folly Brook at Wells and there will be no light there. Councilor Manousos commented that people don't usually take a left there because you can't really get out. Mr. Turner stated that the traffic light was really not warranted by the traffic engineers and Planning & Zoning confirmed it.

Councilor Drake asked if there is another turning lane on Wolcott. Mr. Turner responded that there will be left turn lanes up at Wolcott by the school driveway. So there will be a left turn lane northbound into the site and then a left turn lane southbound into Cottwell which is actually the access into Corpus.

Councilor Manousos stated that he understands that and busses will go in and out of there. Councilor Manousos commented that Planning and Zoning said that you would be willing to revisit that if there were other considerations.

Mr. Turner stated that what we suggested to Planning & Zoning is that these numbers are all based on good solid engineering from our traffic engineer. It's been vetted by Planning & Zoning public input and confirmed by the STC folks. All of these things are totally flexible though. We are not changing lane lets and things like that where, for instance, if Tom Moore all of a sudden said we have to change this whole thing around, we can do that, we have the flexibility and we are not locked in at all. This is the pattern that we think is going to work the best, it going to be the safest and separates the kids, the buses and the parent drop-off from three competing interests at any given time and we think this is going to work the best.

Councilor Manousos asked if you had to create the reversal and you had the cueing on Folly Brook in and Eagle up to that lot, you could always change that if you want.

Mr. Turner responded that Rusty's design staff has built in all kinds of flexibility.

Ms. Purcell stated that we are also adding left turn lanes out on Wolcott Hill Rd. and are also doing to striping out there as well.

Councilor Roberts thanked the Building Committee and staff that worked on this because we did submit a list of questions and having the visual and schematic and making it in colors we can read and pointing out in red the items that are important makes it very easy to follow and it is very helpful to have this document.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 9-0-0.

Councilor Manousos moved **"TO AWARD A CONTRACT TO M&M CONSTRUCTION FOR AMATO CIRCLE DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$21,120 AND TO AUTHORIZE THE TRANSFER OF \$4,120 FROM THE CIP DRAINAGE RESERVE"**, seconded by Councilor Kotkin.

Mr. Bridges explained that as you heard earlier this evening there is a list of drainage projects throughout the town. Amato Circle has been one of the projects that has been on that list for some time. He explained that as part of this year's budget process that one rose to a level of capable of being funded. During the construction of the budget there were three possible solutions to this. One was the \$17,000 solution that will handle the majority of the issue, then

there was some additional \$4,000 work and then there was the mega project which ran us up to about \$50,000-\$60,000. Mr. Bridges explained that the \$17,000 project under this bid \$21,120 will handle the vast majority of the water and is an immediate resolution to the problem in the neighborhood where the backyard would just flood with standing water in those backyards product of not having the capability to escape which this project provides for but you are also getting sheeting action from the condos behind the houses from the adjacent property. Mr. Bridges stated that this is a good resolution to this project and we have worked with the neighborhood throughout this entire process and they actually went to CIAC and were at the public hearing on the budget.

Councilor Hurley asked how long has this one been on the list compared to all the other ones.

Mr. Turner responded that was like the mid 2000's so maybe about eight years or so.

Councilor Hurley asked if this has much worse flooding that the other ones.

Mr. Turner responded yes, it becomes more prevalent because of the mosquitoes and the west Nile virus. There is no moving water here.

Councilor Hurley asked all the other ones flood and drain away.

Mr. Turner responded yes.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted. The motion passed 8-0-1. Councilor Montinieri abstained.

Councilor Drake moved **"TO AWARD A CONTRACT TO COTA CONSTRUCTION FOR DORLEN CIRCLE DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$25,795 AND TO AUTHORIZE THE TRANSFER OF \$795 FROM THE CIP DRAINAGE RESERVE"**, seconded by Councilor Kotkin.

Mr. Bridges explained that this is a project that was on the list for some time and stated that the owners have come to the CIAC Committee for the last couple of years encouraging the town or asking the town to fund this project. We couldn't do it last year. This year it was able to be funded and recommended by the CIAC as one of their drainage projects for the year. The project has been bid and we are recommending approval. It is time.

Councilor Drake commented that this is an interesting project because on this particular street all the people on this street they want to spend their own money to put the drainage in. All they are asking for is a place to put the drainage to. So it's a good thing because we are helping a lot of people who are willing to spend their own money, so it's a little bit different than most.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 9-0-0.

ORDINANCES, RESOLUTIONS, APPOINTMENTS FOR INTRODUCTION

MINUTES

Councilor Hurley moved **“TO APPROVE THE REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF JULY 23, 2013”** seconded by Councilor Kotkin.

Councilor Kotkin noted that on page 4, Comstock Ferry (Ferre) is misspelled and on page 11, Honda Civil (Civic) was misspelled and there was also an item on page 11 there was an item that stated that All Councilors present voted in favor of a motion to table the lease agreement but says it was passed 8-1-0, so something is wrong and needs to be rechecked.

Councilor Kotkin moved **“TO TABLE THE MINUTES UNTIL THE NEXT MEETING”**, seconded by Councilor McAlister.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 9-0-0.

Councilor Kotkin moved **“TO APPROVE THE REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF JULY 30, 2013”** seconded by Councilor McAlister.

Councilor McAlister noted that on page 4 of the minutes on eighth line down “untested tested” should be changed to “untested system”. Councilor Roberts commented that “Mike” Eichner should be changed to “John” Eichner.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted. The motion passed 8-0-1. Councilor Roberts abstained.

Councilor Kotkin moved **“TO APPROVE THE REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF AUGUST 5, 2013”** seconded by Councilor Roberts.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted. The motion passed 6-0-3. Councilors Drake, Hurley and McAlister abstained.

PUBLIC COMMENT

John Miller, 45 Highland commented that his has seen some colossal mistakes made in this town and if we build this thing on the north side of the high school the way it is being discussed and proposed here tonight, it is going to rank right up there with some of the big ones and believes they are tackling something that he hasn’t understood for several months. He stated that he enthusiastically supported the renovation of the high school when we started. He commented about the grade of the softball field is coming up about 4 feet and that several hundred truck loads of material going into that site. He stated that parking should not be going there and the parking lot should be going down at the corner of Folly Brook and Eagle Drive. He commented

not to move the softball field and to put the parking lot in the right place. He urged the Council to take another look at the parking situation because we are about to blow a big one.

Tony Martino, 374 Highland St. commented on the generators and stated that he is happy to see this move forward. He suggested that when they go out to purchase a generator for ambulance and nature center to look at one versus two to handle both buildings in an effort to save money not just on the purchase but on annual maintenance as well.

George Ruhe, 956 Cloverdale Cir., asked if the Manager's Report on the ponds available in writing and if he could get a copy of that. Mr. Bridges responded yes. Mr. Ruhe commented on the drainage projects that were on the list for a long time but no number was attached to them and commented that Cloverdale has been on the list a lot longer than some of those projects. He apologized that they didn't receive some of his emails because they included some photographs and some history. Mr. Ruhe asked when something is going to happen at the pond and is mind boggling to him. He stated that he will try and get the pictures to the Council and will work with Rae Ann to get that accomplished.

Mr. Bridges confirmed that there will be a Special Meeting on Monday, August 26th @ 6:30 p.m. at the High School with the Building Committee and the Board of Education.

Councilor Roberts asked for clarification on Mr. Miller issue with the parking and stated that she thought that the issue with the parking lot and she thought that the issue with the parking lot is technically that it is not on the high school grounds and there is reimbursement issues and asked if someone can straighten that out.

Mr. Bridges responded that from the original round of comments from that particular element, the infrastructure committee actually took a look at that because it is off-site and reimbursement would not apply to that project if it was off-site so the infrastructure committee took a look and it's probably something to do but it is going to be a town project not part of the high school renovation project because it is a tremendous amount of money and it is off-site.

Councilor Manousos commented that he thinks his comment was actually if we say \$600,000 to \$1 million that is reimbursable even 50% doing it off-site on our own might actually be cheaper than the \$500,000 that would cost us out-of-pocket for bringing in the fill and doing it. Councilor Manousos stated that he thinks that was his point that we should analyze that.

Councilor Drake asked Mr. Turner if we put together a number. Mr. Turner responded that we did a cost estimate and it was close to \$1 million dollars to actually put Folly Brook through together as a road with sidewalks and parking and there were obviously wetland and floodplain issues. He stated that we did solicit from our on-call engineers proposals to study that work and the proposals ranged from \$6,000 to \$26,000 from the three firms to actually do a detailed study and cost study estimate something that would be used for capital improvements if we so choose.

Councilor Drake commented that he doesn't believe fund because it is not on the property and

we can't fund that with the bond money we would have go ourselves and it would be \$1 million bucks.

Councilor Manousos commented that he doesn't want to dredge that up again because that was something that he supported but this was something that could have been done before but the Building Committee felt that they were satisfied with the parking arrangements they had. He stated that we could have moved the property line because we owe it to put it into the site for the town, but at this point it doesn't really matter.

Mr. Turner commented that the other thing of note that Mr. Miller mentioned about the fill being brought in and stated that this project has a net surplus of fill on site so all of the fill that will be use to raise that softball field was coming from on the site itself either from trenching or from the building addition areas things like that so there is no import of fill to the site.

ADJOURNMENT

At 10:45 p.m., Councilor McAlister moved "**TO ADJOURN THE MEETING**" seconded by Councilor Drake.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted. The motion passed 9-0-0.

Dolores G. Sassano
Town Clerk

Approved by Vote of Council
September 16th, 2013

Town of Wethersfield
Department of Public Works
505 Silas Deane Highway, Wethersfield, CT 06109
Phone: (860) 721-2850 FAX: (860) 721-2843

To: Jeff Bridges, Town Manager
From: Michael J. Turner, Town Engineer
Date: August 12, 2013
Subject: Status Pond Projects

As requested, I have prepared the following status report of issues and proposed/contemplated work at each of the town owned ponds.

Bell Pond

Identified in the 1995 Milone and McBroom Townwide Watershed Study as requiring work to the dam and spillway. Repairs to the dam and spillway have been designed to repair the stone masonry dam which is leaking, the outlet works are inoperable provide an emergency spillway. Survey and design drawings are complete. DEP needs an updated dam construction permit and cost estimate. This is one of two projects to be funded by reallocation of DEEP Flood and Drainage Project bond with Wethersfield local match from CIP. The pond is severely silted in and vegetation has overtaken 80% of the water surface. Our request for DEEP reallocation of funds includes monies for partial dredging.

Design: dam & spillway completed; need to revise to include dredging

Permitting: need dam permit from DEEP

Construction Cost: \$ 360,000

Funding: DEEP state bond reallocation with local Weth CIP match

Murphy Pond

This project calls for the removal and replacement of the existing dam and spillway. The current spillway is a vertical corrugated pipe with no mechanism for draining or lowering the pond. A new dam and concrete box spillway will have increased capacity and mechanisms for easier maintenance. An emergency spillway will be reconstructed using armored rock. Plans have been designed. Town CIP funds have been allocated for two inlet sediment trap devices to improve water quality. DEP needs an updated dam construction permit and cost estimate. This is the other of two projects to be funded by reallocation of DEEP Flood and Drainage Project bonds with Wethersfield local match from CIP. The pond is severely silted in and vegetation has overtaken 90% of the water surface. Our request for DEEP reallocation of funds includes monies for partial dredging.

Design: dam & spillway completed; revise to include dredging

Permitting: need dam permit from DEEP

Construction Cost: \$ 580,000

Funding: DEEP state bond reallocation with local Weth CIP match

Millwoods Swim Pond

Work this summer included beach sand replacement and installation of new under beach drainage system. Swales have been graded to divert surface runoff resulting in no substantial beach erosion due to rainfall runoff this season.

No current CIP work is proposed.

Millwoods Upper Pond

The concrete dam was replaced about 10 years ago and seems to be functioning properly. Design plans allowed for a future pedestrian bridge as CIP funds become available. Required work consists of routine channel maintenance to keep downstream channel free from vegetation. This pond was identified as needing major dredging (11,000 cubic yards+) This project work is included in the CIP out years.

Design: no yet begun. No firm selected.

Permitting: need local IW permit

Construction Cost: \$ 780,000

Funding: Weth CIP funds

Griswold Pond

The current concrete spillway and wood flashboards control the water level of this backyard aesthetic pond. Lack of easy access has not allowed maintenance at the dam. Town staff is in process of repairing washouts on either side of the concrete. Long term maintenance should include removal of trees and shrubs from the dam embankment and dredging of sediment forebay.

Design: not yet begun; dam & spillway repairs and dredging needed

Permitting: need dam permit from DEEP

Construction Cost: \$ 400,000

Funding: Weth CIP

Cloverdale Pond

This pond was a former agricultural pond and was given to the town as an open space requirement when adjacent land was subdivided. The pond is severely silted in from upstream construction activities, and the spillway leaks and bypasses. There is no flood control use of this dam, it is purely aesthetic. Design plans have been completed and are before DEEP to determine need for a dam maintenance permit. The plans include spillway enlargement and replacement, and dredging of the pond to stop plant growth. Estimated construction cost is \$80,000.

Design: dam & spillway completed including dredging

Permitting: potentially need dam permit from DEEP

Construction Cost: \$ 80,000

Funding: Weth CIP

Spring Street Skating Pond

This small earthen dam and concrete spillway serves as an aesthetic asset in Old Wethersfield, the site of fishing derbies and winter skating parties. The south embankment has eroded from constant erosion (people driving vehicles near the dam feeding ducks) and from overtopping from rainstorms. The dam has little to no flood capacity and is purely aesthetic. Town staff has prepared plans to repair the eroded embankment, level the dam top and provide an energy dissipation scour hole at discharge. DEEP is in process of determining if construction permit is required, or if scope of work is maintenance.

Design: dam & spillway completed

Permitting: potentially need dam permit from DEEP

Construction Cost: \$ 100,000

Funding: Weth CIP

1860 Reservoir

The concrete spillway and wood flashboard dam is in good shape. Downed trees from recent beaver activity have created holes along the upstream embankment which need filling. Vegetation should be cleared from the dam embankments. Improvements to the access road from Highland Street will ensure public access for canoeists and fishermen, but will require IW approval. Future pond work would include maintenance dredging for vegetation control.

Design: future design for dredging

Permitting: local IW permits
Construction Cost: \$ 350,000
Funding: Weth CIP